

## La Porte Police Department

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Media Relations Information for 09/01/2011

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## LPPD Encourages Citizens to Participate in National Night Out Festivities

National Night Out is an exceptional annual crime prevention event sponsored by the La Porte Police Department which takes place each year on the first Tuesday in October. This year's National Night Out festivities will take place on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and various social celebrations are slated to occur throughout the city. The La Porte Police Department will also be hosting its annual Open House at the newly dedicated Herbert Freeman Police Administration Building located at 3001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. All residents, neighborhood organizations, and especially neighborhood watch groups are encouraged to participate in this year's festivities either by hosting a neighborhood block party or attending the open house at the police department.

National Night Out events are an excellent opportunity to intermingle with fellow community members. Prior events have witnessed participation from citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, neighborhood organizations, neighborhood crime watch groups, and local officials from all over the region. The events are expressly designed to:

- 1. Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- 2. Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- 3. Strengthen neighborhood spirit; and
- 4. Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the well-known traditional displays of increased outdoor lighting and front porch vigils, City of La Porte neighborhoods have historically participated in a variety of events over the years that have included block parties, cook outs, visits from local Police, Fire, EMS, and City officials, flashlight walks, contests, and youth programs. Taking part in National Night Out is an effective, inexpensive, and enjoyable occasion that promotes neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in an ongoing effort to maintain safe communities.

If your neighborhood organization or neighborhood watch group would like assistance in planning a National Night Out event, please contact the La Porte Police Department at Support Services Division at 281-842-3162 or 281-842-3183. Also, if you would like to host a block party, the following link will lead you directly to the City's block party request form: www.laportetx.gov/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=6643.